

Gary C Worrell

From: Gary C Worrell [gcw@igx.net]
Sent: 06 February, 2011 00:38
To: 'Gary C Worrell'
Subject: Postcard
Attachments: Hello.jpg; TeamUSA11-StarsAndStripes-20110203.jpg; GPSPlot.gif; SanDiegoBayCruise03.jpg; SanDiegoBayCruise05.jpg; SanDiegoBayCruise09.jpg; SanDiegoBayCruise10.jpg; SanDiegoBayCruise18.jpg; SanDiegoBayCruise21.jpg; StarsAndStripesExtract02.jpg

Hello from San Diego, California (see image).

Last Thursday while in my hotel room on the North edge of San Diego Bay watching the parade of watercraft go by, I snapped a shot of the Stars & Stripes - USA11, an International America's Cup Class (IACC) Racing Yacht. In the image you can see a web site, so I went to the site and sent the picture to their e-mail address.

That same evening I received a reply from the captain of the vessel, along with a generous invitation to go sailing on Saturday. I had never "really" been on a sailboat before, so I thought this was the perfect opportunity to give it a try (I took a dinner cruise on a huge catamaran one time in 1976, but except for having a few Gin & Fresca's, I don't remember much about it).

So today I got all my work done in time to sail at 1PM, for a three hour cruise...a three ow-wer cruise (Gilligan's Island). The vessel was easy to find, at 115 feet the mast was the tallest in the marina. When deployed, it sports 3500 square feet of sheets. My house doesn't have anywhere near 3500 square feet of floor space.

There were about 15 passengers and 7 crew. As passengers we took turns manning the helm and grinding (a nautical term). Don't know what grinding is? Here is a short clip:

<http://igx.net/Video/SanDiegoCAM/Grinding.wmv> (Windows)

<http://igx.net/Video/SanDiegoCAM/Grinding.mp4> (Apple/i)

The GPS plot shows our path as we tacked and jibed through San Diego Bay, obtaining speeds slightly over 10 knots (which was quite good since the wind was fairly calm). But after all, this is a high-tech racing boat built for speed.

And, you know me, a hotel room with a view means a time-lapse video from the balcony:

<http://igx.net/Video/SanDiegoCAM/20110203SheratonBalcony30Sec30FPS.mp4>
(Apple/i)

<http://igx.net/Video/SanDiegoCAM/20110203SheratonBalcony30Sec30FPS.wmv>

(Windows)

It starts Wednesday afternoon and runs through Saturday evening. The boat captain, knowing I was filming, made sure he presented the boat right in view of the camera, you can see it in the last afternoon of the video, as well as on Thursday when I took the first image. I extracted a still from Saturday so you'll know what to look for.

I have no work to do tomorrow (Sunday). What will I do?

Cheers,

G.

<http://igx.net/Postcards/>





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